

CHINA



MAIL.

Established February, 1845. With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

Vol. XXXIV. No. 4584. 號三十月三年八十七百八千一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 1878.

日十初月二年寅戊

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street. GEORGE STREET, 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOSCH, Ludgate Circus, E. C. BATES, Hendy & Co., 4, Old Jewry, E. C. SAMUEL DRACON & Co., 180 & 184, Leadenhall Street.
PARIS AND EUROPE:—LEON DE ROSNY, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.
NEW YORK:—ANDREW WILD, 133, Nassau Street.
AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOSCH, Melbourne and Sydney.
SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BRAN & BLACK, San Francisco.
SINGAPORE AND STRAITS:—SAYLE & Co., Square, Singapore. C. HENDSEN & Co., Malacca.
CHINA:—Macao, MEERS A. A. DE MELLO & Co. Swatow, CAMPBELL & Co. Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLLS & Co. Foochow, HEDEN & Co. Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KILBY & WALSH. Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars.
RESERVE FUND, 1,000,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. SASSOON, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.
E. R. BELLIOU, Esq. ADAM LIND, Esq.
H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq. WILHELM MEINERS, Esq.
H. HOFFMANN, Esq. W. S. YOUNG, Esq.
Hon. W. KESWICK.

CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER.

Shanghai, EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS:—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits:—
For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East.

Hongkong, February 27, 1878.

Notices of Firms.

THE GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

FROM This Day the MANAGEMENT of the above COMPANY'S OFFICE at this place has Provisionally been taken over by Mr. CARL NIELSEN.

A. SUENSON,

Superintendent.

Hongkong, March 12, 1878. mcl9

NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. EDWARD CUNNINGHAM in our Firm in Hongkong and China, CEASED on the 31st December last.

RUSSELL & Co.

China, March 8, 1878. se8

NOTICE.

THE Interest of Mr. WILLIAM DUNPHY in our Firm, CEASED on the 28th February, 1878.

WM. DUNPHY & Co.

West Point Iron Works,
Hongkong, March 9, 1878. mc23

NOTICE.

MR. HORATIO GAY JAMES was admitted a Partner in our Firm on the 1st January, 1878.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, January 5, 1878. se6

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day established myself at this Port as a MERCHANT and COMMISSION AGENT, under the Style or Firm of GEO. R. STEVENS & Co., who will henceforward conduct the Agency of the AUSTRALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

G. R. STEVENS.

Hongkong, December 29, 1877.

NOTICE.

MR. H. F. MEYERINK has been admitted a Partner in our Firm from this Date.

METER & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1878. sp9

For Sale.

LAMBERT, ATKINSON & CO. HAVE FOR SALE.

EX M. M. S. S. "AVA,"

AND OTHER RECENT ARRIVALS.

TEYSSONNEAU'S STRAWBERRIES

in SYRUP.

TEYSSONNEAU'S ASSORTED FRUITS

in NOYEAU.

TEYSSONNEAU'S ASSORTED FRUITS

in BRANDY.

TEYSSONNEAU'S ASSORTED PATES,

in Patent Tins.

TEYSSONNEAU'S PATE DE FOIE GRAS,

in Patent Tins.

TEYSSONNEAU'S ASSORTED JAMS and

JELLIES, in Glass Bottles.

PHILIPPE and CANAUD'S ASSORTED

PATES.

PHILIPPE and CANAUD'S LONG ASPA-

RAGUS.

PHILIPPE and CANAUD'S SARDINES.

FENARD & FILS'

FINEST

CHEBBOURG BUTTER, in Bottles.

CIGARETTES, COMPAGNIE

LAFFRME.

RICHMOND SMOKING MIXTURE.

BARCELONA NUTS.

BRAZIL NUTS.

PEA NUTS.

ALMONDS in SHELL.

SMYRNA FIGS.

MUSCATEL BLOOM RAISINS, in

Cartons.

EPPE'S COCOA.

BORDEN'S CONDENSED MILK.

GOLDEN GATE FLOUR, in Barrels.

GALEFINE and ISINGLAS, in 1/2 lb.

Packets.

WAFFLE IRONS. AMERICAN

BROILERS.

VERY FINE

"O. K." BOURBON WHISKY.

BILLIARD CUE TIPS.

BILLIARD CUE CEMENT.

BILLIARD CHALK.

BILLIARD TABLE CLOTHS.

BARCLAY and PERRINE'S PORTER, in

Hogsheds.

HOTH'S Best Quality RUSSIAN ROPE.

HOTH'S ASSORTED TARRED and

WHITE LINES.

FAIRBANKS' SCALES.

&c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, February 22, 1878.

FOR SALE.

LARGE TAKASIMA COAL,

EX GODOWN AT \$8 PER TON.

Apply to

THS. G. GLOVER,

No. 7, Queen's Road Central, and

East Point.

Hongkong, February 18, 1878. mcl8

COAL.

BEST QUALITY CARDIFF STEAM

COAL for Sale, ex Godown.

Apply to

BATTLES & Co.

Hongkong, December 8, 1877.

Intimations.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING

COMPANY, LIMITED.

THIS REFINERY MANUFACTURES

LOAF SUGAR, (in 5, 10, and 15 lbs.

Loaves.)

Cut and Powdered LOAF SUGAR.

CUBE SUGAR (Lyle's Patent), shortly.

CRYSTALLIZED SUGAR, mark O. S. R.

(in diamond) 1 III.

Fine WHITE SUGAR, mark O. S. R.

(in diamond) 1 III.

Medium WHITE SUGAR, mark O. S. R.

(in diamond) 1 II.

Fine YELLOW SUGAR, mark O. S. R.

(in diamond) 1 II.

COFFEE SUGAR, mark O. S. R.

(in diamond) 1 I.

GOLDEN SYRUP, SYRUP, and

MOLASSES.

SPIRITS OF WINE and LAMP SPIRIT.

RUM, 45°, 50° P., and Naval.

ANIMAL CHARCOAL and DUST.

AMMONIACAL LIQUOR, from Bones.

BONE TAR (a preventive of white ants.)

ROUGH BONE TALLOW.

Packed in Quantities and Packages to suit

Customers.

Particulars and Prices on application to

THE MANAGER,

CHINA SUGAR REFINING Co., LIMITED,

East Point, Hongkong.

March 8, 1878. se6

THE STAG HOTEL,

10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

HONGKONG.

IS now undergoing EXTENSIVE ALTERA-

TIONS and REPAIRS, and will be EX-

TREMELY RE-FURNISHED and OPENED FOR

BUSINESS on SATURDAY, the 16th March,

1878, under new Management.

First rate Accommodation for Visitors.

Attached to the Hotel is a commodious

Billiard Room.

WINE and SPIRITS of the BEST

QUALITY ONLY.

PROPRIETOR—J. COOK.

STAG HOTEL, QUEEN'S ROAD.

Hongkong, March 4, 1878. m913

Intimations.

EX LATE ARRIVALS.

UMBRELLAS, AUTOMATON PATENT.
NOVELTIES in TIES and SCARFS.
COLLARS and SHIRTS, in New Shapes.
CHRISTY'S Newest Shapes in HATS.
TALL BLACK SILK and DRAB HATS.
ELWOOD'S CORK and FELT HELMETS.
MEERSCHAUM and BRIAR PIPES.
CIGAR TUBES, Assorted.
LAWN TENNIS BATS and BALLS.
RACQUET BATS and BALLS.
CRICKET BATS, BALLS and STUMPS.
CABINETS of GAMES.

LADIES' DRESSING BAGS, Fitted.
MANTEL-PIECE MIRRORS.
FRENCH and ENGLISH DOLLS.
AMERICAN ICE PITCHERS.
RUSSIAN CIGARETTES.
SILBER KEROSINE LAMPS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
Hongkong, February 25, 1878.

YANGTSE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

IN Accordance with the Articles of Agreement, the Directors have declared a Dividend to Policy-holders for the fiscal Year ending 30th September, 1877, of TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT. on the NET PREMIUM CONTRIBUTION.

Warrants will be delivered by the Under- signed to Contributors of Premium at this Port, on and after the 9th instant.

Policy-holders are requested to send in particulars of their Contributions.

By Order of the Directors,

RUSSELL & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, March 5, 1878. sp5

THE CHINESE INSURANCE CO.,

LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Seventh Ordinary MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Head Office, Victoria, Hongkong, on FRIDAY, the 22nd March, 1878, at 3 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1877.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 8th March to the 22nd March, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,

OLYPHANT & Co.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, February 22, 1878. mc22

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE

SOCIETY OF THE

UNITED STATES.

HENRY B. HYDE, President.

J. W. ALEXANDER, Vice-President.

SAMUEL BORSOW, Secretary.

A. A. HAYES, Jr., General Manager, for

China and Japan.

PRINCIPAL OFFICE,

120, BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

Assets.....\$31,700,000

Surplus.....\$ 5,500,000

THE Undersigned having been appointed

Agents in Hongkong, China, for the

above Company, are prepared to Accept

Risks at greatly reduced rates and upon

terms very favourable to the assured.

For full information and particulars,

apply to

OLYPHANT & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, January 21, 1878.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

CHINA SEA.

FOOCHOW DISTRICT, No. 2.

NOTICE is hereby given that a danger-

ous Reef of Rocks, on which the

Barque "BENJAMIN AYMAR" struck,

on the 22nd of January, 1878, has been

surveyed by the Revenue Cruiser "Ling

Feng," Captain T. FARROW. The following

bearings and directions are given:

"Magnetic bearings from the Centre of

the Reef:

'Sharp' Peak.....South 76° West.

'Sea Wag' Islet.....South 56° East.

'Eastern Square' Rock.....North 10° West.

"The Reef extends in a North Easterly

direction. It is about three cables in

length, and two cables wide, the least water

found being ten feet upon two pinnacle

rocks lying about two cables apart; these

rocks have deep water between them,

varying from three to eight fathoms."

Note.—This danger is in the Fair way

of Vessels approaching the Outer, or No. 1,

Buoy from the North.

C. HANSEN,

Commissioner of Customs.

Custom House,

Foochow, March 1, 1878. mcl7

NAVAL CONTRACT, 1878-79.

SEALED TENDERS, in duplicate, will

be Received by the Undersigned,

until Noon on FRIDAY, the 15th March,

1878, from Persons desirous of SUPPLY-

ING the following ARTICLES for the use

of H. M. Navy for the year 1878-79, viz.:—

FRESH BEEF. TEA.

FRESH VEGETABLES. RAISINS.

RICE. WATER.

SUGAR. SOFT BREAD.

DISCUT.

Printed Forms of Tender and further

particulars can be obtained at the Naval

Storekeeper's Office.

The right to reject the lowest or any

Tender is reserved.

J. BRENNER,

Storekeeper.

H. M. Victualling Yard,

Hongkong, February 25, 1878. mcl5

DENTAL NOTICE.

D. ROGERS begs to intimate to his

Friends that he is about to visit

Intimations.

G. FALCONER & Co.,
WATCH AND CHRONOMETER
MANUFACTURERS,
AND
JEWELLERS.
NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS
AND BOOKS.
40, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, February 20, 1878. mc20

W. BALL,
CHINA DISPENSARY.
IMPORTER OF DRUGS, CHEMICALS,
DRUGGISTS' Sundries, TOILET
REQUISITES, PATENT MEDI-
CINES AND PERFUMES.
Prescriptions Dispensed with Carefulness,
and Prompt Attention.

PRAY WEST, HONGKONG,
Near the Canton Steamer's Wharf.
Hongkong, July 13, 1876.

NOTICE.
A. MILLAR & Co.,
PLUMBERS, AND GAS FITTERS,
Queen's Road East,
HONGKONG.
September 16, 1877.

STANDARD FIRE OFFICE, LONDON.
THE Undersigned having been appointed
Agents to the above Company at this
Port, are prepared to grant Policies against
Fire to the extent of \$40,000, on Buildings
or on Goods stored therein.
Discount 20 %
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
Hongkong, March 1, 1878.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.
TENDERS are invited for a LEASE of
the HONGKONG HOTEL, the present
Five-yearly Lease expiring on the 31st
August, 1878. SEALED TENDERS to
be sent in on or before the 31st March,
1878, to the Secretary of the Hongkong
Hotel Company, Limited, who will supply
any information required.
By Order of the Directors,
LOUIS HAUSCHILD,
Secretary.
Hongkong, September 18, 1877. ap1

NOTICE.
**OFFICE OF THE SHANGHAI STEAM
NAVIGATION COMPANY,**
IN LIQUIDATION.

**A THIRD RETURN OF CAPITAL AND
INTEREST at the Rate of FIVE
PER CENT. SHARE** will be made to Share-
holders of Record on the 28th February,
Payable at the Office of the Liquidators, on
the 8th March.
Warrants will be delivered by the Under-
signed to Shareholders, or their lawful
representatives, on presentation of Share
Certificates for Endorsement.
The Transfer BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 1st to the 8th
March inclusive.
By Order,
RUSSELL & Co.,
Liquidators.
Shanghai, February 28, 1878. ap4

Notices to Consignees.

FROM LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

THIS S. S. *Glamis Castle*, having arrived
from the above Ports, Consignees of
Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods
are being landed, at their risk, into the
Godowns of Mr. J. V. Y. SHAW, whence
delivery may be obtained.
Consignees wishing to receive their
Goods on the Wharf are at liberty to
do so.
Optional Cargo for Shanghai and Yoko-
hama will be forwarded on, unless notice
to the contrary be given before 11 a.m.
To-morrow.
No Claims will be admitted after the
Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods
remaining after the 14th instant will be
subject to rent.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 7, 1878. mc14

STEAMER PRINZ FRIEDRICH
OARL, FROM LONDON,
PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THIS Steamer having arrived, Consignees
of Cargo are hereby informed that their
Goods are being landed at their risk, by
Mr. J. V. Y. SHAW, into Messrs. TUNN
& Co's Praya-Godown, whence delivery
may be obtained.

Consignees wishing to receive their
Goods on the Wharf are at liberty to
do so.
Optional Cargo will be forwarded on,
unless notice to the contrary be given
before Noon To-morrow.
No Claims will be admitted after the
Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods
remaining after the 22nd instant will be
subject to rent.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
MELOERS & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 12, 1878. mc16

FROM LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

THIS S. S. *Glenfiddich* having arrived
from the above Ports, Consignees of
Cargo are informed that their Goods are
being landed at their risk into the Godowns
of the Undersigned, whence and/or from
the Wharf or Boats delivery may be ob-
tained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded to
Shanghai, unless notice be given before
1 o'clock To-morrow.
Goods remaining undelivered after the
19th instant will be subject to rent.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 12, 1878. mc19

Notices to Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s S. S. GEE LONG.
CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-
named Vessel, from Bombay and Inter-
mediate Ports, and in connection with the
Steamers *POONAH* from London, and
KHELVIE from Calcutta, are hereby
informed that their Goods are being landed
and stored at their risk in the Company's
Godowns, at West Point, whence delivery
can be obtained from this date.
Goods not delivered by the 18th instant
will be subject to rent.

ADAM LIND,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, March 11, 1878. mc17

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR MANILA.
The Steamship
"ESMERALDA"
will be despatched for the
above Port on SATURDAY,
the 16th instant, at Noon.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.
Hongkong, March 13, 1878. mc16

NOTICE.
**COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.**
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship
"ATIBRE"
Comdt. DE GIBARD, will be
despatched for YOKOHAMA
shortly after the arrival of the next French
Mail.
H. DU POUY,
Agent.
Hongkong, March 13, 1878.

NOTICE.
**COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.**
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship
"PET HO,"
Comdt. will be
despatched for SHANGHAI
shortly after her arrival from Europe.
H. DU POUY,
Agent.
Hongkong, March 13, 1878.

**COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.**

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
CONSIGNEES of the following Cargo
are requested to send in their Bills of
Lading to the Undersigned for counter-
signature, and take immediate delivery.
This Cargo has been landed and stored at
their risk and expense.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.
H. DU POUY,
Agent.
Ex "Anadyr."
Gerald Slade, Esq., 1 case Merchan-
dis, from London.
R. H. Bruce, Esq., 1 case Merchan-
dis, from London.
o/o Messrs Gilman & Co., Hongkong.
o/o Messrs Tait & Co., Amoy.
Hongkong, March 13, 1878.

Not Responsible for Debts.
Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor
Owners will be Responsible for any
Debts contracted by the Officers or Crew
of the following Vessels, during their stay
in Hongkong Harbour:—
QUICKSTEP, American barque, Captain
Barnaby.—Captain.
PALESTINE, British barque, Captain H.
Scowcroft.—Tal Lee.
LOUISA, German 3-m. schooner, Captain
Schlerloh.—Eduard Schellhaus & Co.
NORTH STAR, American ship, Captain
J. U. Thomson.—Order.
P. J. CARLETON, American barque, Capt.
J. A. Amberg.—P. & O. Co.
TEX LI, German barque, Captain T. O.
Peterson.—Wm. Pustay & Co.
FEENTOWER, British steamer, Captain
Mackie.—Chinese.
GLENFALLOCH, British steamer, Captain
Taylor.—Kwong Yuen & Co.
LORNE, British steamer, Captain Wm.
McCulloch.—Melchers & Co.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.
March 13, *Atalanta*, German steamer,
783, G. Petersen, Saigon March 7, Rice.—
SIEMSEN & Co.

DEPARTURES.
Mar. 13, *Aristos*, for Guam.
13, *Papillon*, for Bangkok.
13, *Kato Waters*, for Bangkok.
13, *Glenfiddich*, for Saigon.
13, *Alphington*, for Canton.
13, *Gee Long*, for Shanghai.
13, *Chinkiang*, for Shanghai.
13, *Emuy*, Manila via Amoy.
13, *Belgie*, for Yokohama and San
Francisco.
13, *Anadyr*, for Melbourne.
13, *H.M.S. Swinger*, for Holhow and
Fakoh.

DEPARTED.
Kamtoanga, for Haiphong.
G. F. Muntz, for Portland (Oregon).
Silas Fish, for Quinhon.
Conquest, for Holhow and Haiphong.
Lucas, for Bangkok.
Yotting, for Haiphong.
Standard, for Saigon.

PASSENGERS.
ARRIVED.
Per *Atalanta*, from Saigon, 9 Chinese.
DEPARTED.
Per *Belgie*, for Yokohama, Rev. R. Hay-
ward, v.s.n.; for Nagasaki, Lieut. J. A. L.
Coker, s.n.; for San Francisco, Mr. Edward
Boninger, 1 European Steerer, and 492
Chinese.
Per *Chinkiang*, for Shanghai, Misses
Nelson and Hufman, and 20 Chinese.
Per *Feentower*, for Singapore, &c., 428
Chinese.

PASSENGERS.
Per *Gee Long*, for Shanghai, Messrs. At-
chison, Mudie, Poulson, Stenson, Sing
Hung and servant, Morrison and servant,
Rough, and 80 Chinese; from South-
ampton, Mr. W. C. D. Biggley, Dr. A.
Irvin, and Mr. A. Woolley; from Singapore,
Mr. A. Dent and native servant.
Per *Emuy*, for Amoy, 103 Chinese.

TO DEPART.
Per *Lombardy*, from Shanghai for South-
ampton, Mrs. Gibson and infant; for Bom-
bay, Mr. and Mrs. Gubbay and family.
From Yokohama: for Southampton, Mr. T.
Harrison; for Singapore, Mr. G. Takeda.
From Hongkong: for Southampton, Mrs.
Craig, Mr. Foster, Sir Brooke Robertson,
O.B., and Mrs. Wharry; for Brindisi, Mr.
E. Dillon, and Mr. Jas. Sproule; for Bom-
bay, Messrs E. M. Damaboy, and G. H.
J. Mahomed.

Per *Standard*, for Saigon, 20 Chinese.
Per *Silas Fish*, for Quinhon, 20 Chinese.
Per *Conquest*, for Holhow, 100 Chinese.
Per *Lucas*, for Bangkok, 20 Chinese.

SHIPPING REPORTS.
The German steamer *Atalanta* reports:
Moderate N.E. monsoon and fine weather
throughout.

CARGO.
Per *Lombardy*, for London, 89 half-
cheats and 15 cases Tea, 633 bales Silk, 5
bales Waste Silk, 21 bales Wild Silk, 5
cases Silks, and 408 pkgs. Sundries. For
Continents, 75 bales Silk, and 118 pkgs.
Sundries. For America, 500 pkgs. Tea.

POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.
MAILS will close:—
For HAIPHONG and HANOI.—
Per *Zamboanga*, at 7.30 a.m. To-morrow,
the 14th inst., instead of as pre-
viously notified.
For YOKOHAMA.—
Per *Sunda*, at 9.30 a.m. on Thursday,
the 14th inst.
For SAIGON.—
Per *Standard*, at 9.30 a.m. To-morrow,
the 14th inst.
For BANGKOK.—
Per barque *Hermann*, at 4 p.m., on
Thursday, the 14th inst.
For MANILA.—
Per barque *Antelope*, at 4 p.m. To-mor-
row, the 14th inst.
For SWATOW, AMOY & FOCHOW.—
Per *Yasu*, at 5 p.m., on Thursday, the
14th inst.
For SAIGON.—
Per *Quarta*, at 5 p.m. To-morrow, the
14th inst., instead of as previously
notified.
For HOIHOW and HAIPHONG, with
Mails for Pakhoi and Hanoi.—
Per *Dele*, at 8.30 a.m., on Friday, the
15th inst.
For MANILA.—
Per *Esmeralda*, at 11.30 a.m., on Satur-
day, the 16th inst.
For YOKOHAMA and HIOGO.—
Per *Prinz Friedrich Carl*, at 2.30 p.m.,
on Saturday, the 16th inst.
For STRAITS SETTLEMENTS AND
CALCUTTA.—
Per *Venice* and *Japan*, at 2.30 p.m., on
Saturday, the 16th inst.

MAILS BY THE ENGLISH PACKET.—
The English Contract Packet *Lombardy*,
will be despatched with the Mails for
Europe, &c., on THURSDAY, the
14th instant.
The following will be the hours of closing
the Mails, &c.:—
Wednesday, 13th instant.—
5 p.m., Money Order Office closes.
6 p.m., Post Office closes except the Night
Box, which remains open all night.
Thursday, 14th instant.—
7 a.m., Post Office opens for sale
of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and
Posting of all correspondence.
10 a.m., Post Office closes except for Late
Letters. Registry of Letters ceases.
10.15 a.m., Letters may be posted with
LATE FAX of 18 cents extra
to postage till
11 a.m., when the Post Office Closes
entirely.
11.30 a.m., Letters (but Letters only)
addressed to the United Kingdom
via Brindisi, or to Singapore, may
be posted on board the Packet with
Late Fee of 48 cents extra postage,
till
11.50 a.m., when the Mail is finally
closed.
Hongkong, March 1, 1878. mc14

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.—
The French Contract Packet *Esmeralda* will
be despatched from Hongkong on
THURSDAY, the 14th instant, with
Mails to and through the United
Kingdom and Europe, via Mar-
seilles; to Saigon, Singapore, Bata-
via, Galle, Australia, New Zea-
land, Tasmania, Fiji, Aden, Sey-
chelles, Réunion, Mauritius, Suez,
and Alexandria. This is the best
opportunity for forwarding Corre-
spondence to E. Africa, the Cape,
St. Helena, and Ascension.

Letters may also be forwarded to INDIA
by this Packet but can be paid only
as far as Ceylon. The postage to
Ceylon must be prepaid. Such let-
ters should be marked *Paid to Galle*
only; they will go on from Galle as
unpaid.
The following will be the hours of closing
the Mails, &c.:—
Wednesday, 20th instant.—
5 p.m., Money Order Office closes. Post
Office closes except the Night Box,
which remains open all night.
Thursday, 21st instant.—
7 a.m., Post Office opens for sale
of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and
Posting of all correspondence.
10 a.m., Registry of Letters ceases.
11 a.m., Post Office closes except for Late
Letters.
11.10 a.m., Letters (but Letters only)
except those sent through Aden, &c.,
may be posted on payment of a
Late Fee of 18 cents extra postage,
till
11.30 a.m., when the Post Office Closes
entirely.
Hongkong, March 7, 1878. mc21

PASSENGERS.

Per *Gee Long*, for Shanghai, Messrs. At-
chison, Mudie, Poulson, Stenson, Sing
Hung and servant, Morrison and servant,
Rough, and 80 Chinese; from South-
ampton, Mr. W. C. D. Biggley, Dr. A.
Irvin, and Mr. A. Woolley; from Singapore,
Mr. A. Dent and native servant.
Per *Emuy*, for Amoy, 103 Chinese.

TO DEPART.
Per *Lombardy*, from Shanghai for South-
ampton, Mrs. Gibson and infant; for Bom-
bay, Mr. and Mrs. Gubbay and family.
From Yokohama: for Southampton, Mr. T.
Harrison; for Singapore, Mr. G. Takeda.
From Hongkong: for Southampton, Mrs.
Craig, Mr. Foster, Sir Brooke Robertson,
O.B., and Mrs. Wharry; for Brindisi, Mr.
E. Dillon, and Mr. Jas. Sproule; for Bom-
bay, Messrs E. M. Damaboy, and G. H.
J. Mahomed.

Per *Standard*, for Saigon, 20 Chinese.
Per *Silas Fish*, for Quinhon, 20 Chinese.
Per *Conquest*, for Holhow, 100 Chinese.
Per *Lucas*, for Bangkok, 20 Chinese.

SHIPPING REPORTS.
The German steamer *Atalanta* reports:
Moderate N.E. monsoon and fine weather
throughout.

CARGO.
Per *Lombardy*, for London, 89 half-
cheats and 15 cases Tea, 633 bales Silk, 5
bales Waste Silk, 21 bales Wild Silk, 5
cases Silks, and 408 pkgs. Sundries. For
Continents, 75 bales Silk, and 118 pkgs.
Sundries. For America, 500 pkgs. Tea.

POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.
MAILS will close:—
For HAIPHONG and HANOI.—
Per *Zamboanga*, at 7.30 a.m. To-morrow,
the 14th inst., instead of as pre-
viously notified.
For YOKOHAMA.—
Per *Sunda*, at 9.30 a.m. on Thursday,
the 14th inst.
For SAIGON.—
Per *Standard*, at 9.30 a.m. To-morrow,
the 14th inst.
For BANGKOK.—
Per barque *Hermann*, at 4 p.m., on
Thursday, the 14th inst.
For MANILA.—
Per barque *Antelope*, at 4 p.m. To-mor-
row, the 14th inst.
For SWATOW, AMOY & FOCHOW.—
Per *Yasu*, at 5 p.m., on Thursday, the
14th inst.
For SAIGON.—
Per *Quarta*, at 5 p.m. To-morrow, the
14th inst., instead of as previously
notified.
For HOIHOW and HAIPHONG, with
Mails for Pakhoi and Hanoi.—
Per *Dele*, at 8.30 a.m., on Friday, the
15th inst.
For MANILA.—
Per *Esmeralda*, at 11.30 a.m., on Satur-
day, the 16th inst.
For YOKOHAMA and HIOGO.—
Per *Prinz Friedrich Carl*, at 2.30 p.m.,
on Saturday, the 16th inst.
For STRAITS SETTLEMENTS AND
CALCUTTA.—
Per *Venice* and *Japan*, at 2.30 p.m., on
Saturday, the 16th inst.

MAILS BY THE ENGLISH PACKET.—
The English Contract Packet *Lombardy*,
will be despatched with the Mails for
Europe, &c., on THURSDAY, the
14th instant.
The following will be the hours of closing
the Mails, &c.:—
Wednesday, 13th instant.—
5 p.m., Money Order Office closes.
6 p.m., Post Office closes except the Night
Box, which remains open all night.
Thursday, 14th instant.—
7 a.m., Post Office opens for sale
of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and
Posting of all correspondence.
10 a.m., Post Office closes except for Late
Letters. Registry of Letters ceases.
10.15 a.m., Letters may be posted with
LATE FAX of 18 cents extra
to postage till
11 a.m., when the Post Office Closes
entirely.
11.30 a.m., Letters (but Letters only)
addressed to the United Kingdom
via Brindisi, or to Singapore, may
be posted on board the Packet with
Late Fee of 48 cents extra postage,
till
11.50 a.m., when the Mail is finally
closed.
Hongkong, March 1, 1878. mc14

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.—
The French Contract Packet *Esmeralda* will
be despatched from Hongkong on
THURSDAY, the 14th instant, with
Mails to and through the United
Kingdom and Europe, via Mar-
seilles; to Saigon, Singapore, Bata-
via, Galle, Australia, New Zea-
land, Tasmania, Fiji, Aden, Sey-
chelles, Réunion, Mauritius, Suez,
and Alexandria. This is the best
opportunity for forwarding Corre-
spondence to E. Africa, the Cape,
St. Helena, and Ascension.

Letters may also be forwarded to INDIA
by this Packet but can be paid only
as far as Ceylon. The postage to
Ceylon must be prepaid. Such let-
ters should be marked *Paid to Galle*
only; they will go on from Galle as
unpaid.
The following will be the hours of closing
the Mails, &c.:—
Wednesday, 20th instant.—
5 p.m., Money Order Office closes. Post
Office closes except the Night Box,
which remains open all night.
Thursday, 21st instant.—
7 a.m., Post Office opens for sale
of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and
Posting of all correspondence.
10 a.m., Registry of Letters ceases.
11 a.m., Post Office closes except for Late
Letters.
11.10 a.m., Letters (but Letters only)
except those sent through Aden, &c.,
may be posted on payment of a
Late Fee of 18 cents extra postage,
till
11.30 a.m., when the Post Office Closes
entirely.
Hongkong, March 7, 1878. mc21

MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

Miscellaneous.
Claims against the *Felix Mendelssohn*
must be sent in to the Agents before
Noon.

Shipping.
Noon.—English Mail leaves for Ports
of Call and Europe.
Goods per *Glamis Castle* undelivered after
this date subject to rent.

General Memoranda.
FRIDAY, March 15:—
Daylight.—Yasu leaves for Coast Ports.
Noon.—Naval Contract Tenders close for
the supply of Provisions.
8 p.m.—Sale of Ground Property, Ma-
rine Lot No. 206.

SATURDAY, March 16:—
Noon.—*Esmeralda* leaves for Manila.
3 p.m.—*Venice* and *Japan* leave for
Singapore, &c.
3 p.m.—*Prinz Friedrich Carl* leaves for
Yokohama, &c.
9 p.m.—Meeting of Perseverance Lodge.

MONDAY, March 18:—
Goods per *Gee Long* undelivered after this
date subject to rent.

TUESDAY, March 19:—
9 p.m.—Meeting of Victoria Lodge.
Goods per *Glenfiddich* undelivered after
this date subject to rent.

THURSDAY, March 21:—
Noon.—French Mail leaves for Ports of
Call and Europe.
FRIDAY, March 22:—
3 p.m.—Meeting of Shareholders of The
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited, at the
Head Office, Hongkong.
Goods per *Prinz Friedrich Carl* undeliv-
ered after this date subject to rent.

THURSDAY, March 28:—
Noon.—American Mail leaves for Yoko-
hama and San Francisco.

THE
HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
Established A.D. 1841.
香港大藥房

A. S. WATSON & Co.,
FAMILY & DISPENSING CHEMISTS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
IMPORTERS

OF
DRUGGISTS' SUNDRIES, NURSERY REQUI-
SITES, TOILET REQUISITES, ENGLISH,
AMERICAN, AND FRENCH PATENT
MEDICINES.

MANUFACTURERS
OF
Soda Water, Lemonade, Tonic Water,
Gingerade, Potass Water, Sarsaparilla
Water, and other Aerated Waters.

The Manufactory is under direct and
continuous European Supervision.
Hongkong, June 1, 1876.

The publication of this issue commenced
at 7.30 p.m.

THE CHINA MAIL.
HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 1878.

A CHINESE FUNERAL.
(Continued from yesterday.)

What may be particularised as the
public obsequies of the deceased were
commenced by a procession issuing from
the house on the mission known as "buy-
ing the water," wherewith to wash the
body of the deceased. First came the
"musicians" (save the word); then a
priest wearing a long robe of a dark red
colour and a sort of college cap, and,
lastly, the white-clad mourners. On the
mainland the procession would probably
have repaired to the nearest river well, or
even the wet ditch of the city, for the
water, but these antiquated conveniences
being scarce in Hongkong the sorrowful
cortege on this occasion was compelled to
wend its steps to (shades of Confucius!)
—the government hydrant at the end of
the street! The leading actor in this
ceremony of "buying the water" was, as
usual, the eldest son of the deceased, a
youth about seven or eight years of age.
Notwithstanding his youth, however, his
part was performed with an exactness
that must have resulted from a consid-
erable amount of previous instruction.
Bearing in his hand a wand covered with
white, indented paper; supported on each
side by a female relative, and bending near-
ly double in token of his intense grief, this
young scion of the deceased proceeded
slowly and gravely in the direction of
the hydrant, the "band" meanwhile
doing their best with the "tom-toms"
and that close imitation of the Scotch
bag-pipe—the Chinese pipe. Arrived at
the hydrant the party knelt around that
useful appliance of modern times; the
"musicians" redoubled their exertions,
and the priest his prayers; more in-
cense was burnt, and a tremendous
burst of wailing and lamentation went
up from the mourners. While these
necessary performances were in operation,
the youth to whom we have just referred
drew with the requisite prostrations and
solemnity a basin of water from the
hydrant, and then sprinkled a few coins
on the ground by way of payment. It
is essential in this ceremony that the
water should be paid for. The procession
then returned to the house, where doubt-
less the body of the deceased was washed
by the boy, in compliance with the cus-
tom of his country.

After the body of the deceased has
been washed in this manner, it is dressed
in the best clothes which belonged to the
man in his life-time, a hat being placed
on his head, a fan in his hand, and shoes
on his feet. Thus attired he is placed
in the coffin, the idea being that he will

be clothed in these habiliments in Ely-
sium, and consequently appear there as a
respectable and superior member of
society. At intervals during these and
subsequent ceremonies gilt and silvered
paper in the shape of coins and sycee
bars is burnt, in the belief that it will
also pass into the invisible world,
where it will be received into solid
cash; and clothes, sedan chairs, furni-
ture, buffaloes and horses, made of
paper, are transferred on the same prin-
ciple to the "better land" for the benefit
of the dead.

The body was brought through the
window and placed in the coffin outside
the house on the stage at the top of the
temporary wooden structure. It is the
practice with the richer Chinese, at least
on the mainland, to keep the coffin
bodies of their relatives in their houses
for long periods, sometimes for years.
This custom was not followed on Wed-
nesday, the funeral taking place imme-
diately after the ceremony of "buying
the water." Most of our readers are
doubtless familiar with the shape of
Chinese coffins. Large sums of money
are sometimes expended on coffins by
the "celestials," and a dutiful son will
see that his parents are provided with
these melancholy receptacles sometimes
many years before their death. They
are made of heavy boards four or five
inches in thickness, and rounded at the
outer joints, and appear to invariably
take the form, in this Colony, of the
polished trunk of a tree. Inside they
appear to be lined with a sort of mortar;
the joints are all carefully closed with a
similar substance, but a small hole is
drilled through the coffin over the face
of the deceased, so as to leave a channel
of escape and entrance for the spirits.

It was a work of some difficulty to
bring the coffin body down the steep
foot-way from the window to the road,
but the task was finally accomplished
without mishap, amidst the renewed
wailings of the mourning women, the
shrieks of the pipes, and the belabouring
of the "tom-toms." Awaiting the
arrival of the coffin in the street were
some twenty elaborately carved and
lavishly gilded sedan chairs, constructed
especially for such occasions. These
chairs contained meats, fruits, and cakes
—real and artificial,—in profusion.
Among other articles displayed were
to be noticed two excellently cooking
smoking pigs. Two or three altar pieces,
emblazoned with the name and age of
the deceased, were also carried in the
procession; also banners, the deceased's
tablet and photograph, and other articles,
the bearers all being dressed more or
less in mourning costume. Before the
procession started for the burial ground
at Mount Davis, there was more wail-
ing, more incense burnt, more shrieks
from the "gusty pipe," and more prayers
from the priest. One of the last acts of
the mourners was to walk round the
coffin; and then the procession moved
off, the coffin taking the last place in the
cortege.

At Mount Davis the body was con-
signed to mother earth with much lamen-
tation, incense burning and praying,
but this article has already assumed pro-
portions too long to admit of of the burial
ceremony being described in detail.

There was, however, apparently but lit-
tle difference between the proceedings at
the grave, so far as the priest, the mourn-
ers and especially the "musicians" were
concerned, and those earlier in the day.
The deceased's tablet is carried back in
procession to the house, and there set up
in a room, specially reserved for such
purposes, with other tablets of the family.
Before these tablets incense is daily
burnt and prayers offered. The food
carried in the procession is, we believe,
commonly distributed among the poor;
sometimes, however, a portion of it is
consumed in the house.

The burial places of the Chinese are
selected by necromancers, and if the
family be rich this selection is often made
a matter of considerable difficulty and
expense. A good view for the entombed
spirit is one of the chief requirements
for a grave. The side of a hill over-
looking water, a copse, or a ravine
near a hill top, are highly favoured
spots. About the 5th April in each year
the population of the country may be
seen trooping out to their tombs to repair
and sweep them, and make offerings. A
Chinese tomb in the south of China
seems invariably, so far as the outline on
the ground is concerned, to take the
form of the Greek letter Omega (Ω), and
when raised to any height it usually
much resembles a huge arm-chair, the
coffin being placed in

DIARY OF THE WAR.

(Compiled from the London Daily Papers.)

Friday, Jan. 25.—The Porte has received the Russian terms of peace, though by what agency is not explained. These conditions include the payment of a very heavy war indemnity, and the occupation of a portion of Turkish territory until that payment be made. Something like a qualified contradiction is given to the statement that the Russians were advancing towards Gallipoli, and a Constantinople telegram declares that only some Russian scouts have appeared at Kechnan. A semi-official statement is telegraphed from St. Petersburg to the effect that Russia has no interest in touching Gallipoli, and will neither attack nor occupy that place unless the Turkish regular army should be quartered there, in which event it would be impossible to leave such a force on the Russian flank. Suleiman Pasha is said to have arrived at the coast near Kavala Bay. His troops are to be forwarded to Gallipoli and Constantinople. The Daily News is informed that in view of a certain contingency, instructions have been sent out to the Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet, now at Saros, to land in the vicinity of Boulair a force of Marines and Blue-Jackets, in order that they may act as interim defenders of the lines of Gallipoli, and further to hold in readiness six of his regimental ships for immediate despatch to Malta to bring up the mass of its garrison. The contingency contemplated in these instructions is, that of authentic information arriving of a Russian force advancing, or having advanced, on Gallipoli. The lines of Boulair, extending from the Gulf of Saros to the Hellespont, and covering the landward approaches to Gallipoli, are for miles north-east of the latter place, and in the opinion of the late Sir John Burgoyne could be held by 12,000 men against a very much larger force.

Saturday, Jan. 26.—The terms of peace have been agreed upon. Suleiman Pasha having telegraphed to the delegates to accept them. But the Porte has also given an undertaking to keep them secret until the signing of them is an accomplished fact. This undertaking the Turkish Minister has communicated to the English and Austrian ambassadors at Constantinople, with the promise that they shall know the terms of peace as soon as he is at liberty to disclose them. According to the Paris correspondent of the Daily Telegraph the Russian terms embrace: The independence of Roumania and Serbia; the creation of a kind of autonomy in Bulgaria under conditions somewhat similar to those which prevail in the Lebanon; for Bosnia and Herzegovina a like disposition. With regard to the opening of the Dardanelles an arrangement is to be made by the Great Powers and submitted for approval to the Emperor Alexander and the Porte; a war indemnity is to be paid to Russia, the amount not yet determined, nor whether it shall be in the nature of a money payment or accession of territory; Batoum to be ceded to Russia, and Kara, Bayazid, and Erzerum occupied till the indemnity is paid. In the mean time there is no war news whatever. The remnants of Suleiman Pasha's army have arrived at the coast, whence they are to be shipped to Gallipoli and Constantinople; and the General has telegraphed to the Porte his advice that peace should be concluded.

Monday, Jan. 28.—The British fleet has returned to Besika Bay after, according to telegrams from Constantinople, the twenty-one vessels, under command of Admiral Hornby, had entered the Dardanelles on Friday afternoon, and saluted one of the forts; but further proceedings were stopped by a secret sitting of the Turkish Chamber of Deputies was held on Saturday afternoon, when the Sultan made known to his Parliament the conditions of peace. These terms, however, have not yet been telegraphed to London. The Russian headquarters have been removed from Kezanlik, and it is thought that when the Grand Duke and the Plenipotentiaries arrive at Adrianople a treaty will be signed. Between the 21st and 22nd instant, in the night, according to a telegram of Friday's date from the Moscow headquarters at Tiflis, a Russian detachment, notwithstanding the prevalence of snowy and stormy weather, attacked and captured a strong Turkish position near the village of Dolibekhan, causing its defenders to fly, leaving behind them one mountain gun, a number of tents, and a quantity of arms and ammunition. Great consternation is reported to have been felt at Athens on the news arriving that peace had been concluded. A large crowd paraded the streets on Saturday, making a demonstration in favour of war. The troops were called out in order to disperse the mob, and it was feared that serious disturbances would take place.

Tuesday, Jan. 29.—Although the Russian terms of peace were published last night in London they were not known publicly in Constantinople. Up to noon no further communication had been received from the Plenipotentiaries, and the uncertainty as to whether an armistice had been signed gave rise to many rumours. From Vienna we hear that Count Andriy is not pleased at his special programme being set aside by the Russians, owing to their desire to establish a number of telegraphic States, and it is said he intends to give an adequate expression to his dislike. While negotiations are pending the Russians are continuing to advance in every direction. Not only are they displaying great activity all along the line of the Quadrilateral, but they are also reported to have occupied positions to the south of Adrianople. On the 26th instant the Russians made several desperate assaults against one of the redoubtable defending Siliarias, and on each occasion were repulsed. The Serbian army, in all 85,000 men, is operating from three points in the direction of Pristina. After four days fighting they won a victory over a considerable number of Turks, under Chakir Pasha. The Montenegrins are proceeding with their preparations for the capture of Scutari.

Wednesday, Jan. 30.—No armistice having been concluded the Russian advance continues, and at Paris it is reported that in consequence of Suleiman Pasha having taken up a position at Bulair, in front of Gallipoli, the Russians are sending a force against him. An occasional correspondent at Pesh sends the Standard a telegram, stating, on the faith of information professing to come from the Russian headquarters, that the conclusion of an armistice will be delayed pending the completion of strategic arrangements for an attack on Constantinople early in February, and he adds that the Russians intend to send forward an overwhelming force, so that victory may be perfectly certain. The terms of peace have given anything but satisfaction at Vienna; as Count Andrassy strongly objects to the territorial changes which are pro-

posed. Roumania, too, objects to the retrocession of that part of Bessarabia which is within her borders, and General Ignatieff has arrived at Bucharest with an autograph letter from the Czar, which is believed to refer to this subject. According to a despatch from Vienna, published at Brussels yesterday, the action of the European Powers now aims, before anything, at bringing about the assembling of a Conference, which is expected to meet in Berlin. It would appear, the despatch says, that an understanding to that effect has been arrived at. Intelligence telegraphed from Athens yesterday states that an insurrection has broken out in the province of Alynro, and also that the insurrectionary movement in Thessaly is spreading. The news of an engagement on Mount Pelion is confirmed. The Turks are said to have been repulsed with a loss of 60 men; while the loss on the side of the insurgents was unimportant.

Thursday, Jan. 31.—Mr. Layard telegraphs to Lord Derby that he has been distinctly informed by the Grand Vizier that instructions were sent to the delegates about two o'clock on the 28th instant, to accept the Russian bases of peace. Three times since these orders were sent the Porte has telegraphed to know the result, but no answer has been received, although the Grand Vizier shows that the telegraphic possibility of any procrastination on the part of the Turkish envoys. Respecting the negotiations, it is stated at St. Petersburg that the instructions to the Turkish delegates were sent by a circuitous route; and thus the delay was occasioned by the Port. A well-informed German paper, however, says that there have been objections raised to some of the military conditions. A note, very little short of an ultimatum, has, our Vienna correspondent telegraphs, been addressed by the Austro-Hungarian Government to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg. In this communication Austria distinctly declares that she will regard as null and void any treaty entered into between Russia and Turkey which contains stipulations contrary to the special interests of Austria-Hungary. Robert Fickel with 8,000 troops, arrived at Constantinople yesterday, and has been charged with the naval defence of the capital. The Russians have occupied Bourgas, on the Black Sea, and Rodosto, on the Marmora. At Boyoren Boularik a Turkish force of 600 men were compelled to surrender at discretion, their commander not being prepared to fight, as he believed an armistice had been concluded. The Montenegrins have scored another victory by the capture of Fort Martin. The Prince is endeavouring to incite a general rising throughout Albania. The Grand Duke Nicholas has issued an order forbidding the armistice or its negotiations to form a topic for the Russian troops.

THE GERMAN ARMY AND NAVY.

The military contributor of the Cologne Gazette says that the establishment for the year 1878 of the regular field army of Germany, including the transport corps and the administrative services, is 17,310 officers, 687,684 men, 1,900 guns, and 238,982 horses. The reserve force consists of 4,426 officers, 243,095 men, 428 guns, and 30,590 horses; and the garrison army, including the whole of the landwehr, of 10,107 officers, 358,102 men, 824 guns, and 97,414 horses. The total available war establishment is, therefore, 31,845 officers, 1,289,791 men 301,636 horses, and 425 field batteries (divided equally among the three portions of the army), with 2,560 guns. Immediately on the outbreak of war, however, the field army could be strengthened by from 120 to 160 landwehr battalions, 144 landwehr squadrons, and 64 field batteries, so that the force available for immediate employment would be 300,000 men, with 2,124 field guns. This force can be further increased by 148 fourth battalions of the field army and 270 landwehr battalions, which under recent regulations would be supplied with a regular number of officers. As to the German navy, its establishment for the present year consists of 1 vice-admiral, 3 rear-admirals, 18 sea-captains, 45 captains of corvettes, 77 chief lieutenants, 126 sea-lieutenants, 128 sub-lieutenants, 100 cadets, 19 engineers, 58 officers, and 22 cadets of the reserve, 89 deck-officers, 659 sub-officers, 5,189 sailors, and 412 boys, besides the dockyard divisions, which comprise 145 officers and 1,616 sub-officers and sailors. The total peace establishment of the German navy amounts to about 10,000 officers and men. The German fleet, excluding the vessels on harbour duty, consists of 50 vessels, with 407 guns. Four iron-clad corvettes and five covered corvettes are building.

EGYPTIAN FINANCE.

The Khedive has to day (January 29) issued a Decree ordering the formation of a Commission of Inquiry into the condition of the finances. The Decree states that the large deficiencies in last year's receipts and the gravity of the situation impose upon the Egyptian Government the obligation of verifying the actual revenue. It has consequently been decided to institute this Commission in order to verify the deficits and the causes to which they are attributed, to inquire into the mode in which last year's taxes were assessed and collected, and to ascertain the amount at which the revenue of the Nile and the amount of the normal year's revenue. Finally, the Commission is to consider the best means of assuring the regular collection of legitimate taxes, and its report is to be presented in the course of the present year.

THE CAPTURE OF KASHEGAR.

The report of the taking of Kashgar by the Chinese is confirmed. The Zuercher Gazette says:—The ruler of Kashgar, Bek-Kylibek, has fled, and his wives have taken refuge in the Narynek fort on our territory; 2,000 Mussulmans have likewise arrived there from Kashgar, fleeing from the sanguinary vengeance of the Chinese conquerors. The fugitive begged protection and desired to become Russian subjects. Among them were five Turks, who had been sent to Yakoub Beg as military instructors. On arriving at our frontier they were all disarmed. The Turks were sent under a guard to Tokmak, and permission was given to the others to pass on, as there was no harm for them in the fort. Thus the Mussulmans in Kashgar have received a fatal blow. The Khawakhs were held together

only by the iron hand of Yakoub Beg, and his death on June 8 of last year was a fatal event for Djityshar. The Chinese advancing rapidly from Manas and Urumtsi, occupied the whole of Djityshar almost without encountering resistance, and some towns, such as Khotan, voluntarily invited the Chinese troops. Our traveller, Przhevalski, was right when he said that the whole people of Kashgar hated Yakoub Beg and awaited with impatience the arrival of the Russians. He predicted that if the Russians did not occupy the country, the people would overthrow the slightest resistance recognise the authority of the Chinese. His prophecy has now been fulfilled.

The following details have been received at St. Petersburg from Tashkent respecting the capture of Kashgar:—“When the Chinese general appeared within sight of Aksu last September the Dzungar inhabitants immediately manifested a desire to surrender; and although the city was strongly fortified, and could have resisted the enemy months, a capitulation was at once agreed on. Whether the negotiations were carried on directly between the people and Tso-tsun-tsan, or whether, as is more probable, the governor of the town took advantage of the desire for peace on the part of the inhabitants to accept the Chinese bribe to give up the fortress, I do not yet authoritatively stated. At any rate the key of Kashgar surrendered without striking a blow, and immediately after the entry of Tso-tsun-tsan the city was given over for plunder. For several days scenes of the most frightful description ensued, and the atrocities were only suspended when it became apparent to the Chinese general that the place, which on account of its resources he had chosen for his headquarters, would become utterly depopulated if the excesses of his soldiers were not arrested. Several thousand of the people fled to the Russian frontier, where they received assistance from the Russian army, 20,000 strong, sent for Kashgar, accompanied by 15,000 Dzungars. On the way it was met by a deputation from the town of Tournan, submitting the place to the Chinese. At Kotan a similar desire prevailed, but the Chinese general, instead of directing his steps towards it, as had originally been intended, when he heard a rumour that Bek Kuli Bek was there, proceeded direct to Kashgar. No opposition encountered him on the way, and on his arrival the city capitulated without firing a shot. Bek Kuli Bek fled nobody knows where. His wives and family sought refuge on Russian territory. Two thousand Kashgarians also fled to the frontier, where they were disarmed by the Russian authorities. Among them were four Turkish officers, who had been sent by the Sultan to drill the forces of Yakoub Beg. Yarkand and Kotan are the only two Kashgarian towns remaining. The fall of the latter is imminent, and the former will not long afford a shelter to the Emir who is supposed to have fled there with a few of his followers.”

ADMIRAL RYDER AT VLADIVOSTOK.

The following is a translation of a letter addressed to the St. Petersburg naval newspaper, Yacht, by its own correspondent at Vladivostok, giving an account of the visit of Admiral Ryder there:—

At Nagasaki, it seems, rumours had got about that Vladivostok was being armed with monster guns and submarine torpedoes. This reached the ears of Admiral Ryder, and induced him with an imposing suite to pay us a visit. The English officers, with great pertinacity and no small amount of impudence, tried to inspect our batteries, but in this they were checked by our authorities, additional sentries having been stationed everywhere about Vladivostok. Finding themselves baffled in one spot, they sought another—on the hills overlooking the town, where, with glass in hand, the Admiral and his staff could be seen intently inspecting the forts. At the same time another party of officers descended towards the beach under the pretext of walking. At first they were not checked in walking, and, *à la russe*, they gradually drew near the batteries, where they broke into two parties, the conversation while the sentries stood away in the direction of the shore. Circumvented in this, they took to boats, but were again out-manoeuvred, the authorities having set a large number of crews to watch the waters. They then put themselves in communication with a Frenchman, named Huseel, who had lived in the country two years, but could not speak a word of Russian. Some say he had been a gardener, others a waiter. At any rate, he had married a Vladivostok washerwoman, and had gone inland, in the desperate poverty, to live at the Nicolsky village. Directly the English came, Huseel re-appeared; directly the English went, Huseel was arrested, why I cannot officially inform you, as there was no official trial, but the well founded impression is that he gave information to the English about the magazines, &c., and has since been expelled from Russian territory. At the time of the arrival of the English the defensive batteries had been suspended. Immediately after their departure, the works were recommenced with unprecedented vigour. The troops were called out, the sailors of the Pacific fleet landed, and 500 labourers engaged, and now we are working at the defences as though the hostile armament of England were off our very shores. When it does come we shall give the officers a warmer reception than we gave the lot just gone.

MAGIC PIPES.

The tovely in Paris now is a “magic pipe.” This resembles an ordinary clay pipe as long as it is confined to its case, but, as soon as it is exposed to the air, or rather to the light, it becomes intensely brown, very much resembling the colour eagerly sought after by professional smokers. Others, again, are so marked as to form different designs, such as calligraphic characters, words, dialects, proverbs, and even portraits. The invention is due to M. Dagon and Gieseler, who have published the composition of the liquid employed, in which is dissolved about 10 per cent in weight of sulphur and 10 per cent of borax. This is added a slight trace of a salt of silver, such as the nitrate, to obtain a coating easily impressionable to light and easily fusible by the heat in the pipe, which is dipped in the solution with the designs previously traced on it.—*British Medical Journal*.

THE RETARDATION OF THE MOON.

Writing on this subject the New York Times says:—“It is no longer possible to conceal the fact that the moon has fallen into a habit-fraught with the most disastrous consequences both to herself and the earth. Possibly she is growing weary, for her age is much greater than that of the earth, and she was old when this planet was yet swathed in vaporous swaddling-clothes. Whatever the cause may be, she has relaxed the speed with which she once circled around us, and she is gradually moving more and more slowly to the discharge of her nightly duties. This ‘retardation of the moon,’ as cold-blooded scientific persons call it, has been placed beyond doubt by careful investigation, and its rate has been accurately calculated. In itself considered, it would not be a matter of very great importance, but it is well ascertained that just in proportion as the speed of the moon slackens she draws nearer to the earth. The consequences of this latter conduct are inevitable and appalling. For some time to come there will be no difference in the appearance of the moon which can be detected by ordinary eyes. Gradually, however, she will grow apparently larger and brighter, and the day—or rather the night—will come when the moon in her first quarter will seem as brilliant as she now is when at the full. The tremendous stimulus which this state of things will exert upon the human mind can only be faintly imagined. Our roofs and back-logs will be thronged with nocturnal entities, and those scenes of violence and full moon will begin every evening as soon as the moon rises. Sleep will be banished from the face of the earth, and the human race will assemble at its back windows, and spend the night in hurrying bootjacks and languages at the limitless oars, who, with characteristic self-conceit, will look upon the increased quantity of moonlight as a direct pandering to their depraved passions. As for lovers, they will multiply to an unprecedented extent. Not merely the young but also the veteran widowers and the widows who have faced a score of times the altar and the ring, will be seized with a desire to sit at unequal hours behind the show of pillow and roses. Thus, in its insidious way, the approach of the moon earthward will develop, alike on the back fence and on the front piazza, those phases of the tender passion which seek expression either in waterwringing or idiosyncrasy. Steadily and surely the growing disc of the approaching moon will blot out the stars and monopolise the midnight sky. The time will then be near at hand when the moon, yielding to the attractions of the earth, will rush upon us with a velocity frightful to think of. If we have with reason dreaded a collision with a light and gaseous comet, how much more reason have we to dread the blow of the vast and solid moon! Kindling into flames as she rushes through the atmosphere, she will strike the earth, and thereby develop an amount of heat sufficient to melt a whole continent into boiling lava. Of course, no human soul could survive such a shock without flying into fragments. The earth would doubtless be broken into small distinct pieces, which would begin to revolve around one another, and to indulge in other wild astronomical orgies, the mere thought of which must bring a chill to every orderly breast.”

An recent meeting of the French Academy of Sciences a paper was read giving an account of the working of a ventilating apparatus lately fitted on board the French transport *Annamite*, one of four large vessels built for conveying troops to and from Cochinchina. The ventilation of the ship is effected by utilizing the heat escaping up the funnels when the vessel is under steam; or by lighting small fires for the purpose when the transport is lying at anchor; and special attention has been given to providing for the ventilation of a sick bay established in the centre of the vessel, and also of the deck, on which the men sleep. At some point, after the transport had been under weigh for three hours, 29,000 cubic metres of air were evacuated every hour, while after steaming for a short time longer the volume of air discharged was between 30,000 and 40,000 metres per hour. Even at the lower rate the air in the hospital was renewed eight times in the hour; and therefore the atmosphere of the sick bay, even if full of sick, would be kept perfectly fresh. The plan of ventilation thus successfully adopted on board the *Annamite* was first suggested by a French naval engineer in 1874, when the inventor received the medal of the Academy on the recommendation of a committee which examined and reported on his plan; and it is now suggested with advantage on board the vessels engaged in bringing horses from the Argentine Republic or live cattle from America.

The news from the seat of war in Kafra becomes more alarming as each successive mail is received. Telegraphic news from Cape Town up to 8th January has been received by cable from Madeira, and we are informed that there then existed a general apprehension of a deadly and prolonged conflict between the colonists and the natives. This appears to be no unreasonable panic. The previous mail had informed us that Sandhill, the chief of the Galkas, had defied the Government, and that a portion of his tribe were declared to be in open revolt. A general disarmament of the natives had been ordered, but it was doubtful whether the majority of the Galkas could be induced to obey. Some, it was known, would prefer to fight. The rebellion of another tribe, reported in a despatch published by the Times on Wednesday, has been signalled by the murder of a magistrate and his brother and a “field cornet,” only some thirty miles from East London. “Nearly all the farm-houses between Komgaha and Keli have been burnt.” The farmers are flying into the towns, and the scenes so painfully familiar during the old Kafra wars are being repeated all along the border. Sir Bartle Frere, now actively aided by the Cape Government which has at last awakened to a sense of the perils surrounding it, is endeavouring to form an army strong enough not only to oppose the Galkas but to coerce and disarm the other disaffected tribes. Mr. Lowther commiserated the House of Commons on Tuesday evening a significant despatch from Sir B. Frere, in which the Governor complains that “the colonial reinforcements are arriving slowly,” and declares that the rebellion cannot be effectually and speedily suppressed without a larger force than we at present possess or have a prospect of collecting here.” Since then, however, a regiment of infantry and a battery of artillery have been ordered out to the Cape, and another regiment is on the point of following.

COMMERCIAL.

March 13. A good business has been done in both kinds of Bengal Opium since the dispatch of last mail, though with some irregularity in the rates. The weights of the chests have been so varied lately that the rates had to be regulated accordingly, which does not speak much for the government monopoly. As the drug to be received for the most part of the current year consists of what has been prepared years ago, and kept piled up in the godowns to meet “contingencies,” the cause of the irregularity in the weight of the drug can be easily understood; and the alternative of weighing the chests has been resorted to, for the first time in the annals of the trade. The present quotations are \$77½ to \$80 for Patna, and \$64½ to \$50 for Benares.

The receipts for the month, so far, aggregate 3,974 chests, against 2,745 chests to the corresponding date last year. During the interval under notice some 900 chests have been taken by the local consumers, against 1,400 chests at the corresponding period last year. This, with the exportations, leaves the available supply computed at 4,500 chests, against 3,300 chests same time last year. Of this last quantity 600 chests were Benares, of which kind the present stock comprises 1,100 chests.

MESSRS. HEINEMANN & Co.'s Freight Circular.

for the Mail of Thursday, 14th March, says:—

Business in the market during the past fortnight has been fairly active, and though homeward freights have ruled low, more demand has existed than for some time past, while coastwise inquiry has continued and rates are firm, but no improvement is noticeable.

Homewards, the charters reported for the Philippines are understood to be at low rates, but as late advices are unfavourable, more tonnage is not wanted at present, and as there is no demand from China Ports or Japan, the market closes very dull.

Coastwise, tonnage has been in request for the Northern Ports, and rates are maintained. For Bangkok also several settlements have been effected, and there is still some inquiry. A moderate business has been done in steamers from Saigon to this, and the rate may be quoted as 18 cents per picul.

The British 3-m. schooner *Rubicon*, 204 tons, has been sold by public auction for \$2,750, and the British bark *Alphington*, 326 tons, privately, for \$8,500. The British bark *Warrior*, 919 tons, left for Rangoon, the British brig *Novelle*, 385 tons, for Shanghai, and the German bark *G. F. Muntz*, 924 tons, will leave for Astoria, under orders from owners. The American ships *Eumboldt*, 1,018 tons, and *Cashmere*, 936 tons, will load in the Philippines for the States under home orders. The American ship *Charger*, 1,445 tons, has taken the bark for San Francisco. The Russian ship *Jale*, 1,868 tons, leaves for Singapore “coasting.” The disengaged tonnage in port amounts to 39 vessels, registering 80,855 tons, steamers not included.

The following are the settlements:—

German bark *Wega*, 1115, to New York, private.

Ger. ship *Kaiser*, 1240, to New York, private.

American ship *Comet*, 1150, Two Ports in Japan to a port in the United Kingdom, £2,10, per ton 20 cwt., or on the Continent, £2,12/6.

Italian bark *Francesca* Starace, 494, Two Ports in the Philippines to a port in the United Kingdom, or on the Continent, or to New York, private.

German bark *India*, 1090, Two Ports in the Philippines to a port in the United Kingdom, or to New York or Boston, private.

German bark *Felix Mendelssohn*, 923, Two Ports in the Philippines to a port in the United Kingdom, or to New York or Boston, private.

American ship *Antelope*, 1800, Manila to San Francisco, private.

American ship *Annie M. Small*, 1053, to Portland, Oregon, private.

American bark *Quickstep*, 826, to Vancouver Island, private.

British bark *Northern Star*, 327, Whampoa to Tientsin and back to Hongkong, via Newchwang, 50 cents per picul, 35 lay days.

German schooner *Nicholas*, 165, Whampoa to Tientsin and back to Hongkong, via Newchwang, \$1,950 in full, 25 lay days.

Dutch bark *Trio*, 263, Whampoa to Tientsin and back to Hongkong via Newchwang 52½ cents picul, 35 lay days.

French bark *St. Anne*, 400, Newchwang to Whampoa, 29 cents per picul, 20 lay days.

German bark *Fidelio*, 317, Newchwang to Swatow, 80 cents per picul, 20 lay days.

German bark *Anna*, 447, Chetoo to Swatow, 23 cents per picul, 20 lay days.

German bark *Peter*, 403, Chetoo to Swatow, 23 cents per picul, 20 lay days.

German bark *Patra*, 891, Chetoo to Swatow, 28 cents per picul, 20 lay days.

French bark *Therese* and *Nelly*, 836, Chetoo to Amoy, 18 cents per picul, 20 lay days.

German bark *Faugh Ballagh*, 240, to Quinhon and back, 21 cents per picul, 25 lay days.

German bark *Tartar*, 256, Quinhon and back, \$1,275 in full, 30 lay days.

American bark *Silas Fish*, 702, Com-mong to two other Ports in Cochinchina to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul, 35 lay days.

German bark *Hermann*, 433, Bangkok to Hongkong, \$2,700 in full, 40 lay days.

British bark *Palestine*, 688, Bangkok to Hongkong, inside the Bar 25 cents per picul, outside the Bar 30 cents per picul, 40 lay days.

British steamer *Benloft*, 1000, Bangkok to Hongkong, inside the Bar 20½ cents per picul, outside the Bar 24½ cents per picul, 15 lay days.

British bark *Kenton*, 667, Bangkok to Hongkong inside the Bar 19 cent per picul, outside the Bar 23 cents per picul, 37 lay days.

British bark *Kate Waters*, 510, Bangkok to Hongkong inside the Bar 18 cents per picul, outside the Bar 23 cents per picul, 35 lay days.

British steamer *Charlton*, 876, to Haiphong and back, 18½ cents per picul, 11 lay days.

British steamer *Thales*, 878, to Haiphong and back, 20 cents per picul, 9 lay days.

German bark *Tekli*, 660, to Haiphong and back, \$3,200 in full, 49 lay days.

German steamer *Cassandra*, 937, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul, 8 lay days.

Dutch steamer *Java*, 884, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul, 8 lay days.

British steamer *Santher*, 1,400, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul, 13 lay days.

to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul, 13 lay days.

German steamer *Quarta*, 731, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul, 8 lay days.

British steamer *Cypriotes*, 1286, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul, 10 lay days.

British steamer *Standard*, 1681, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul, 12 lay days.

German bark *Carl Ritter*, 698, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul, 35 lay days.

American bark *Ceylon*, 681, Kobe to Hongkong, \$2,500 in full, 60 lay days.

British steamer *West Stanley*, Chinkiang to Whampoa, 18 candeleros per picul, 8 lay days.

British steamer *Holyrood*, 583, to Singapore and Penang, \$1,750 in full.

Quotations.

HONGKONG, March 13, 1878.

OPIMUM.—New Patna, cash...\$77½ a 580 credit, —
“ Old Patna, cash... None credit, —
“ New Benares, cash, 547½ a 550 credit, —
“ Old Benares, cash, None credit, —
“ New Malwa, cash, 685 credit, 690
“ Allowance Tels, 16 a 40
“ Old Malwa, cash, — credit, —
“ Allowance Tels, — credit, —

QUICKSILVER.

Bank, on demand, ... 3/10½
“ 30 days' sight, ... 3/10½
“ 6 months' sight, ... 3/11½

Credits, ... 3/11½
Documentary, 6 months' sight, ... 3/11½
Bombay, demand Rupees, ... 2½ a 233
Calcutta, ... 22½ a 233

Shanghai, demand, ... 7½
“ 30 days, ... 7½
Bar Silver, 17 dwts. B., ... 9.50
Sycee, ... 8.50

Mexicans, ... 1½ p.m.
Gold Leaf, ... 26.30
English Sovereigns, ... 5.08
Australian Sovereigns, ... 5.08

Discount, ... 7 to 8 %

Shares.

Hongkong Bank, 58 % prem.
Union Ins. Society of Canton, \$1,800
China Traders' Ins. Co., \$1,160
Chinese Insurance Co., \$245
Yanktze Ins. Assn. Co., \$1,625
North China Ins. Co., \$1,900
H.K. Fire Ins. Co., \$680
China Fire Ins. Co., \$1,700
H.K. & W. Dock Co., par.
H.K. & W. S. Boat Co., \$16 dis.
Shanghai Steam Navigation, \$16 dis.
Hongkong Gas Co., \$75
Hongkong Hotel Co., 155
China Sugar Refining Co., 2 % prem.
Chinese Imperial Loan, \$104.10/
Do. of 1877, \$103

Temperature.

Taken at Messrs. Falconer & Co.'s Foremast Queen's Road.)

HONGKONG, March 13, 1878.

BAROMETER.—9 A.M. ... 30.350
Do. 1 P.M. ... 30.360
Do. 4 P.M. ... 30.400

THERMOMETER.—9 A.M. ... 63
Do. 1 P.M. ... 63
Do. 4 P.M. ... 63

Do. (Wet bulb) 9 A.M. 61
Do. Do. 1 P.M. 60
Do. Do. 4 P.M. 61

Do. Maximum over night 64
Do. Minimum over night 59

Shipping Intelligence.

The following is corrected from the latest London and Colonial Papers:—

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

AT HONGKONG.

When left. Name. From. Remarks.

June 13, Henry Lippett, New York

July 13, Northampton, Baltimore

Aug. 14, Regulus, Cardiff

Sept. 14, Andrea, Flushing Roads

Merchant Vessels in Hongkong Harbour.

Exclusive of late Arrivals and Departures reported to-day.

